(a) whether Summer train running on Bhatni-Varanasi Section has been suspended recently;

(b) if so the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to reserve this train and provide stoppages and Gorakhpur Express Sarju-Yamuna Express and other fast trains on Dullahapur,

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) 515/516 Bhatni-Varanasi summer special cancelled w.e.f 1-7-91 has since been restored as a regular train w.e.f. 12-8-91.

Stoppage of any additional trains at Dullahpur, Jakhaniyan and sadat Stations is presently not feasible due to operational exigencies and lack of traffic.

[*English*]

Increase in Natural Gas prices

5518. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received from different organisation in Gujarat regarding high rates of natural gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) Certain representations have been received.

(b) and (c) These representations have argued for a price of natural gas less than that recommended by the Kelkar Committee. The representations are considered while taking decisions.

[*Translation*]

Survey for oil and Gas in Rajasthan

5519. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether seismic survey has been undertaken by the Oil India Limited for exploration of oil and natural gas in Beghevala region of Bikaner and adjoining areas of Ajmer in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) and (b). Seismic Surveys have been conducted by Oil India Limited in the Baghevala region of the Bikaner - Nagaur region of Rajasthan. The first exploratory well drilled on the Baghevala structure resulted in an inflow of some very heavy oil. Detailed testing is in progress.

Coal Supply to Rajasthan

5520. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the places from where the coal is supplied to Rajasthan and the quantity during the last three years;

(b) whether the coal supplied to Rajasthan falls much short of its demand; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to make coal available to Rajasthan as per its requirement in the near future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF THE COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Coal supplies to vari-

ous industries sectors in Rajasthan are arranged from the following subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. (CIL)

1. Northern Coalfields Ltd.
2. Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.
3. South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.
4. Central Coalfields Ltd.
5. Eastern Coalfields Ltd.
6. Western Coalfields Ltd.

The supplies during the last three years are as under :-

STATEMENT

(Figures in '000 tonnes)

State	Year	Power	Cement lizer	Ferti-	Paper	Tax/ Rayons	soft Coke	Hard Coke	Others
Rajasthan	1988-88	831	1077	296	-	65	3	4	380
	1989-90	1599	1097	336	-	77	1	7	792
	1990-91	1467	1065	254	4	162	1	5	895
	1991-92 (April-June)	530	264	64	-	28	-	3	145

(b) and (c). No, Sir, Coal is supplied by CIL as per linkage/sponsorship and availability of coal and railway wagons. There has been some shortfall in supply of coal to non-core cector industries. However, Ministry of Coal have now issued instructions toall coal companies to supply at least 50% of the linked quantity of coal to non-core sector industries. This is expected to improve the availability of coal to industries all over the country including Rajasthan.

[*English*]

Flights to Gulf Countries

5521. SHRI P.C THOMAS:
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of international flights operating from Trivandrum, Bombay, Madras and Delhi to Gulf Countries;

(b) the annual number of passengers travelling in these sectors and the number out of them from Kerala;

(c) whether the Government propose to operate more flights from Trivandrum, Cochin and Calicut to the Gulf Countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Weekly flights from the international airports to the Gulf are indicated below:-

Airport	*Total flights to Gulf*
Bombay	59
Delhi	13
Madras	-
Trivandrum	18

(b) The total number of passengers who travelled in the year 1990 to the Gulf were 7,21,473. It is not possible to isolate the number of passengers from Kerala.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Air India proposes to introduce one more flight from Trivandrum to Gulf. There is no proposal to operate flights from Cochin to Gulf countries. The possibility of Air India operating direct flight from Calicut to Gulf countries in under consideration.

Halt of Madras Express at Marikulan

5522. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide a halt of Madras Express to Marikulan station in Alleppey, Kerala in view of heavy rush of passengers there; and